

# Covering numbers and its application on deep neural networks

## Chapter 20-chapter 21

Presenter: Xianli Zeng

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Let  $x_i$  are IID samples from distribution  $\mathbb{P}$ . Its empirical distribution is denoted by  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . In statistical learning, we are interested in

$$\|\mathbb{P}_n - \mathbb{P}\|_{\mathcal{F}} = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(X_i) - \mathbb{E}[f(X)] \right|.$$

- When  $|\mathcal{F}|$  is finite, the bound is easily derived by concentration inequalities.
- When  $|\mathcal{F}|$  is infinite, in previous chapter, we have shown that the above quantity can be upper and lower bounded by the Rademacher complexity of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

# A straightforward idea

- To provide a uniform bound for a set  $U$  with infinite number of elements is difficult. In converse, we first consider a set  $V$  with finite number of elements.
- How to choose  $V$ : we want that for any  $u \in U$ , there is a  $v \in V$  such that  $u$  and  $v$  share similar properties.

To be specific, we want to bound  $\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(X_i) - \mathbb{E}[f(X)]|$ . The first step is, for any  $\epsilon$ , we find  $N_\epsilon$  elements  $f_1, \dots, f_{N_\epsilon}$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies, for any  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , there exists a  $i$  such that

$$\|f - f_i\|_\infty \leq \epsilon.$$

Denote  $\phi(f) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(X_i) - \mathbb{E}[f(X)]$ . Then,

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |\phi_f| = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |\phi_f - \phi_{f_i} + \phi_{f_i}| \leq 2\epsilon + \sup_i |\phi_{f_i}|.$$

# Covering number: definition

## Definition

Given a set  $U$ , scale  $\epsilon$ , norm  $\|\cdot\|$ ,  $V \subset U$  is a (proper)  $\epsilon$ -cover when

$$\sup_{u \in U} \inf_{v \in V} \|u - v\| \leq \epsilon.$$

Let  $\mathcal{N}(U, \epsilon, \|\cdot\|)$  denote the covering number: the cardinality of the smallest  $\epsilon$ -cover.

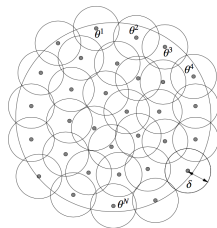


Figure: illustration of covering number

## Examples (Covering numbers of unit interval)

Let us begin with a simple example. Consider the interval  $[-1, 1]$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , equipped with the norm  $\|\theta\| = |\theta|$ .

Suppose that we divide the interval  $[-1, 1]$  into  $L := \lfloor \frac{1}{\epsilon} \rfloor + 1$ , sub-intervals, centered at the points

$$\theta^i = -1 + 2(i-1)\epsilon \quad \text{for} \quad i \in [L] : \{1, 2, \dots, L\},$$

and each of length at most  $2\epsilon$ . By construction, for any point  $\theta \in [0, 1]$ , there is some  $j \in [L]$  such that

$$|\theta^j - \theta| \leq \epsilon,$$

which shows that

$$\mathcal{N}([-1, 1], \epsilon, \cdot) \leq \lfloor \frac{1}{\epsilon} \rfloor + 1.$$

# Basic Rademacher-covering relationship: one step discretization bounds

Covering numbers and Rademacher complexities are in some usual settings nearly tight with each other, though in these lectures we will only produce a way to upper bound Rademacher complexity with covering numbers.

## Theorem

Given  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$URad(U) \leq \inf_{\alpha > 0} \left( \alpha \sqrt{n} + \left( \sup_{u \in U} \|u\|_2^2 \right) \sqrt{2 \ln \mathcal{N}(U, \alpha, \|\cdot\|_2)} \right).$$



## Proof.

Let  $\alpha > 0$  be arbitrary, and suppose  $\mathcal{N}(U, \alpha, \|\cdot\|_2) < \infty$  (otherwise bound holds trivially). Let  $V$  denote a minimal cover, for any  $u \in U$ , denote  $V(u)$  the closest element in  $V$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{URad}(U) &= \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \langle \epsilon, u \rangle \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \langle \epsilon, u - V(u) + V(u) \rangle \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} (\langle \epsilon, V(u) \rangle + \langle \epsilon, u - V(u) \rangle) \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} (\langle \epsilon, V(u) \rangle + \|\epsilon\|_2 \|u - V(u)\|_2) \\
 &= \text{URad}(V) + \alpha \sqrt{n} \\
 &= \sup_{v \in V} (\|v\|_2) \sqrt{2 \ln |V|} + \alpha \sqrt{n} \\
 &= \sup_{u \in U} (\|u\|_2) \sqrt{2 \ln \mathcal{N}(U, \alpha, \|\cdot\|_2)} + \alpha \sqrt{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

and the bound follows since  $\alpha > 0$  was arbitrary. □

## Second Rademacher-covering relationship: Dudley's entropy integral

### Theorem

Let  $U \subseteq [-1, +1]^n$  be given with  $0 \in U$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{URad}(U) &\leq \inf_{N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}} \left( n2^{1-N} + 6\sqrt{n} \sum_{i=1}^N 2^{-i} \sqrt{\ln \mathcal{N}(U, 2^{-i}\sqrt{n}, \|\cdot\|^2)} \right) \\ &\leq \inf_{\alpha > 0} \left( 4\alpha\sqrt{n} + 12 \int_{\alpha}^{\sqrt{n}/2} \sqrt{\ln \mathcal{N}(U, \beta, \|\cdot\|^2)} d\beta \right). \end{aligned}$$

## Proof.

We'll do the discrete sum first. The integral follows by relating an integral to its Riemann sum.

- Let  $N \geq 1$  be arbitrary.
- For  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ , define scales  $\alpha_i := \sqrt{n}2^{1-i}$ .
- Define cover  $V_1 := \{0\}$ ; since  $U \subseteq [-1, +1]^n$ , this is a minimal cover at scale  $\alpha = \sqrt{n}$ .
- Let  $V_i$  for  $i \in \{2, \dots, N\}$  denote any minimal cover at scale  $\alpha_i$ , meaning  $|V_i| = \mathcal{N}(U, \alpha_i, \|\cdot\|_2)$ .



Proof.

Since

$$u = (u - V_N(u)) + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (V_{i+1}(u) - V_i(u)) + V_1(u),$$

$$\text{URad}(U) = \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \langle \epsilon, u \rangle$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \left( \langle \epsilon, (u - V_N(u)) + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (V_{i+1}(u) - V_i(u)) + V_1(u) \rangle \right)$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \langle \epsilon, u - V_N(u) \rangle + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \langle \epsilon, V_{i+1}(u) - V_i(u) \rangle + \mathbb{E} \sup_{u \in U} \langle \epsilon, V_1(u) \rangle$$



## Proof.

Combining these bounds,

$$\text{URad}(U) \leq n2^{1-N} + 0 + 6\sqrt{n} \sum_{i=1}^N 2^{-i} \sqrt{\ln \mathcal{N}(U, 2^{-i}\sqrt{n}, \|\cdot\|^2)}.$$

$N \geq 1$  was arbitrary, so applying  $\inf_{N \geq 1}$  gives the first bound.

For the second bound, as  $\mathcal{N}(U, \beta, \|\cdot\|^2)$  is nonincreasing in  $\beta$ , the integral upper bounds the Riemann sum:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{URad}(U) &\leq n2^{1-N} + 12 \sum_{i=1}^N (\alpha_{i+1} - \alpha_{i+2}) \sqrt{\ln \mathcal{N}(U, 2^{-i}\sqrt{n}, \|\cdot\|^2)} \\ &\leq \sqrt{n}\alpha_N + 12 \int_{\alpha_{N+1}}^{\alpha_2} \sqrt{\ln \mathcal{N}(U, \beta, \|\cdot\|^2)} d\beta. \end{aligned}$$

To finish, pick  $\alpha > 0$  and  $N$  with

$$\alpha_{N+1} \geq \alpha > \alpha_{N+2}.$$



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# Bounds of covering numbers

We will give bounds of covering numbers of two different groups of functions.

- The first will be for arbitrary Lipschitz functions, and will be horifically loose (exponential in dimension).
- The second will be the tightest known bound for ReLU networks.

# Covering number of Lipschitz functions

## Theorem

Let data  $S = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be given with  $R := \max_{i,j} \|x_i - x_j\|_\infty$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  denote all  $\rho$ -Lipschitz functions from  $[-R, +R]^d \rightarrow [-B, +B]$  (where Lipschitz is measured wrt  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ ). Then the improper covering number  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}}$  satisfies

$$\ln \tilde{\mathcal{N}}(\mathcal{F}, \epsilon, \|\cdot\|_u) \leq \max \left\{ 0, \left\lceil \frac{4\rho(R + \epsilon)}{\epsilon} \right\rceil \ln \left\lceil \frac{2B}{\epsilon} \right\rceil \right\}.$$



# Covering number of Lipschitz functions

## Proof.

- Suppose  $B > \epsilon$ , otherwise can use the trivial cover  $\{x \rightarrow 0\}$ .
- Subdivide  $[-R - \epsilon, +R + \epsilon]^d$  into  $(\frac{4(R+\epsilon)\rho}{\epsilon})^d$  cubes of side length  $\frac{\epsilon}{2\rho}$ ; call this  $U$ .
- Subdivide  $[-B, +B]$  into intervals of length  $\epsilon$ , thus  $2B/\epsilon$  elements; call this  $V$ .
- Our candidate cover  $G$  is the set of all piecewise constant maps from  $[-R - \epsilon, +R + \epsilon]^d$  to  $[-B, +B]$  discretized according to  $U$  and  $V$ , meaning

$$|\mathcal{G}| \leq \left\lceil \frac{2B}{\epsilon} \right\rceil^{\left\lceil \frac{4(R+\epsilon)\rho}{\epsilon} \right\rceil^d}$$



# Covering number of Lipschitz functions

## Proof.

To show this is an improper cover, given  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , choose  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  by proceeding over each  $C \in U$ , and assigning  $g|_C \in V$  to be the closest element to  $f(x_C)$ , where  $x_C$  is the midpoint of  $C$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\|f - g\|_\infty &= \sup_{C \in U} \sup_{x \in C} |f(x) - g(x)| \\ &\leq \sup_{C \in U} \sup_{x \in C} (|f(x) - f(x_C)| + |f(x_C) - g(x)|) \\ &\leq \sup_{C \in U} \sup_{x \in C} (\rho \|x - x_C\|_\infty + \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \\ &\leq \sup_{C \in U} \sup_{x \in C} (\rho \frac{\epsilon}{4\rho} + \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \leq \epsilon.\end{aligned}$$



We now introduce the covering number for deep neural networks.

## Theorem

Fix Relu activations  $\sigma$  and data  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , define

$$\mathcal{F}_n := \{f = W_L \sigma_{L-1}(\cdots \sigma_1(W_1 X^\top) \cdots) : \|f\|_\infty \leq R, \|W_i\|_{\infty, \infty} \leq k, \\ \|b\|_\infty \leq k, \|W_i\|_0 + \|b_i\|_0 \leq S\},$$

and all matrix dimensions are at most  $m$ . Then

$$\mathcal{N}(\delta, \mathcal{F}_n, \|\cdot\|_\infty) \leq (Lm^2)^S \left(\frac{2k}{h}\right)^S \leq \left(\frac{2L^2 \|X\|_\infty k^L m^{L+2}}{\delta}\right)^S,$$

## Part 1 Construct a covering

### Proof.

Since each weight parameter in the network is bounded by a constant  $k$ , we construct a covering by partition the range of each weight parameter into a uniform grid. Consider  $f, f' \in \mathcal{F}(R, k, L, p, S)$  with each weight parameter differing at most  $h$ , i.e.  $\|W_i - W'_i\|_{\infty, \infty} \leq h$  and  $\|b_i - b'_i\|_{\infty} \leq h$ . Denote

$$A_L = \|f - f'\|_{\infty} = \|W_L \sigma(W_{L-1} \cdots \sigma(W_1 X) \cdots) - W'_L \sigma(W'_{L-1} \cdots \sigma(W'_1 X) \cdots)\|_{\infty},$$

By an induction on the number of layers in the network, we show that the norm of the difference  $\|f - f'\|_{\infty}$  scales as  $\square$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
\|f - f'\|_\infty &= A_L = \|W_L \sigma(W_{L-1} \cdots \sigma(W_1 X) \cdots) - W'_L \sigma(W'_{L-1} \cdots \sigma(W'_1 X) \cdots)\|_\infty \\
&\leq \|W_L - W'_L\|_1 \|W_{L-1} \cdots \sigma(W_1 X) \cdots\|_\infty + \|W_L\|_1 A_{L-1} \\
&\leq hm \|W_{L-1} \cdots \sigma(W_1 X) \cdots\|_\infty + km A_{L-1} \\
&\leq hk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty + km A_{L-1} \\
&\leq hk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty + km(hk^{L-2} m^L \|X\|_\infty + km A_{L-2}) \\
&= 2hk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty + k^2 m^2 A_{L-2} \\
&\leq (L-1)hk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty + k^{L-1} m^{L-1} A_1 \\
&\leq (L-1)hk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty + hk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty \\
&= hLk^{L-1} m^L \|X\|_\infty.
\end{aligned}$$



## Part 3 Calculate covering number

### Proof.

As a result, to achieve a  $\delta$ -covering, it suffices to choose  $h$  such that  $Lhk^{L-1}m^L\|X\|_\infty = \delta$ . Moreover, there are  $C_{Lm^2}^S \leq (Lm^2)^S$  different choices of  $S$  non-zero entries out of  $Lm^2$  weight parameters. Therefore, the covering number is bounded by

$$\mathcal{N}(\delta, \mathcal{F}_n, \|\cdot\|_\infty) \leq (Lm^2)^S \left(\frac{2k}{h}\right)^S \leq \left(\frac{2L^2\|X\|_\infty k^L m^{L+2}}{\delta}\right)^S,$$



# “Spectrally-normalized” covering number bound

## Theorem

Fix multivariate activations  $(\sigma_i)_{i=1}^L$  with  $\|\sigma\|_{Lip} =: \rho_i$  and  $\sigma_i(0) = 0$ , and data  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , and define

$$\mathcal{F}_n := \left\{ \sigma_L(W_L \sigma_{L-1} \cdots \sigma_1(W_1 X^\top) \cdots) : \|W_i^\top\|_2 \leq s_i, \|W_i^\top\|_{2,1} \leq b_i \right\},$$

and all matrix dimensions are at most  $m$ . Then

$$\ln \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{F}_n, \epsilon, \|\cdot\|_F) \leq \frac{\|X\|_F^2 \prod_{j=1}^L \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon^2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^L \left( \frac{b_i}{s_i} \right)^{2/3} \right)^3 \ln(2m^2).$$

## Remark

*Applying Dudley, we have*

$$URad(\mathcal{F}_n) = \tilde{O} \left( \|X\|_F (\Pi_{j=1}^L \rho_j s_j) \left( \sum_{i=1}^L \left( \frac{b_i}{s_i} \right)^{2/3} \right)^{3/2} \right).$$

*Let's compare to our best "layer peeling" proof from before, which had  $\Pi_i \|W_i\|_F \leq m^{L/2} \Pi_i \|W_i\|_2$ . That proof assumed  $\rho_i = 1$ , so the comparison boils down to*

$$m^{L/2} \Pi_i \|W_i\|_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \left[ \sum_i \left( \frac{\|W_i^\top\|_{2,1}^{2/3}}{\|W_i\|_2^{2/3}} \right) \right]^{3/2} (\Pi_i \|W_i\|_2)$$

*where  $L \leq \sum_i \left( \frac{\|W_i^\top\|_{2,1}^{2/3}}{\|W_i\|_2^{2/3}} \right) \leq L m^{2/3}$ . So the bound is better but still leaves a lot to be desired and is loose in practice.*



## Two lemmas in proof

The first step of the proof is a covering number for individual layers,

### Lemma

$$\ln \mathcal{N}(\{WX^\top : X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}, \|W^\top\|_{2,1} \leq b\}, \epsilon, \|\cdot\|_F) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b^2}{\epsilon^2} \right\rceil \ln(2dm).$$

With the covering number for individual layers, we have the following covering number bound for the whole network,

### Lemma

*Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the same image vectors as in the theorem, and let per-layer tolerances  $(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_L)$  be given. then*

$$\ln \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{F}_n, \sum_{j=1}^L \rho_j \epsilon_j \prod_{k=j+1}^L \rho_k s_k, \|\cdot\|_F) \leq \sum_{i=1}^L \left\lceil \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b_i^2 \prod_{j<i} \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon_i} \right\rceil \ln(2m^2).$$

# Proof of the theorem

## Proof.

We prove the theorem by solving a Lagrangian (minimize cover size subject to total error  $\leq \epsilon$ ), choose

$$\epsilon_i = \frac{\alpha_i \epsilon}{\rho_i \prod_{j>i} \rho_j s_j}, \quad \alpha_i := \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{b_i}{s_i} \right)^{2/3}, \quad \beta := \sum_{i=1}^L \left( \frac{b_i}{s_i} \right)^{2/3}.$$

Invoking the induction lemma with these choices, the resulting cover error is

$$\sum_{i=1}^L \epsilon_i \rho_i \prod_{j>i} \rho_j s_j = \epsilon \sum_{j=1}^L \alpha_j = \epsilon.$$

and the main term of the cardinality (ignoring  $\ln(2m^2)$ ) satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^L \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b_i^2 \prod_{j<i} \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon_i^2} &= \frac{\|X\|_F^2}{\epsilon^2} \sum_{i=1}^L \frac{b_i^2 \prod_{j=1}^L \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\alpha_i^2 s_i^2} \\ &= \frac{\|X\|_F^2 \prod_{j=1}^L \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon^2} \sum_{i=1}^L \frac{\beta^2 b_i^{2/3}}{s_i^{2/3}} = \frac{\|X\|_F^2 \prod_{j=1}^L \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon^2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^L \left( \frac{b_i}{s_i} \right)^{2/3} \right)^3. \end{aligned}$$



# Proof of the Lemma 1

## Lemma

$$\ln \mathcal{N}(\{WX^\top : X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}, \|W^\top\|_{2,1} \leq b\}, \epsilon, \|\cdot\|_F) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b^2}{\epsilon^2} \right\rceil \ln(2dm).$$

## Proof.

Let  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  be given with  $\|W^\top\|_{2,1} \leq r$ . Define  $s_{ij} := W_{ij}/|W_{ij}|$ , and note

$$\begin{aligned} WX^\top &= \sum_{i,j} e_i e_i^\top W e_j e_j^\top X^\top = \sum_{i,j} e_i W_{ij} (X e_j)^\top \\ &= \sum_{i,j} \frac{|W_{ij}| \|X e_j\|_2}{r \|X\|_F} \frac{r \|X\|_F s_{ij} e_i (X e_j)^\top}{\|X e_j\|} = \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} \times U_{ij}. \end{aligned}$$

Note by Cauchy-Schwarz that

$$\sum_{i,j} q_{ij} \leq \frac{1}{r \|X\|_F} \sum_i \sqrt{\sum_j W_{ij}^2} \|X\|_F = \frac{\|W^\top\|_{2,1} \|X\|_F}{r \|X\|_F} \leq 1.$$



# Proof of the Lemma 1

## Proof.

potentially with strict inequality, thus  $q$  is not a probability vector, which we will want later. To remedy this, construct probability vector  $p$  from  $q$  by adding in, with equal weight, some  $U_{ij}$  and its negation, so that the above summation form of  $WX^\top$  goes through equally with  $p$  as with  $q$ . Now define IID random variables  $(V_1, \dots, V_k)$ , where

$$\Pr[V_\ell = U_{ij}] = p_{ij},$$

$$\mathbb{E}V_\ell = \sum_{i,j} p_{ij} U_{ij} = \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} U_{ij} = WX^\top,$$

$$\|U_{ij}\| = \left\| \frac{s_{ij} e_i (X e_j)}{\|X e_j\|_2} \right\|_F r \|X\|_F = |s_{ij}| \|e_i\|_2 \left\| \frac{X e_j}{\|X e_j\|_2} \right\|_2 r \|X\|_F = r \|X\|_F,$$

$$\mathbb{E}\|V_\ell\|^2 = \sum_{i,j} p_{ij} \|U_{ij}\|^2 \leq \sum_{i,j} p_{ij} r^2 \|X\|_F^2 = r^2 \|X\|_F^2.$$



# Proof of the Lemma 1

Proof.

By Lemma 5.1 (Maurey (Pisier 1980)), there exist  $(\hat{V}_1, \dots, \hat{V}_k) \in S^k$  with

$$\left\| WX^\top - \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\ell} \hat{V}_{\ell} \right\|^2 \leq \mathbb{E} \left\| \mathbb{E} V_1 - \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\ell} V_{\ell} \right\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\ell} \|V_1\|^2 \leq \frac{r^2 \|X\|_F^2}{k}$$

Furthermore, the matrices  $\hat{V}_{\ell}$  have the form

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{\ell} \hat{V}_{\ell} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\ell} \frac{s_{\ell} e_{i_{\ell}} (X e_{j_{\ell}})^{\top}}{\|X e_{j_{\ell}}\|} = \left[ \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\ell} \frac{s_{\ell} e_{i_{\ell}} e_{j_{\ell}}^{\top}}{\|X e_{j_{\ell}}\|} \right] X^{\top},$$

by this form, there are at most  $(2nd)^k$  choices for  $(\hat{V}_1, \dots, \hat{V}_k)$ . □

## Proof of the Lemma 2

### Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the same image vectors as in the theorem, and let per-layer tolerances  $(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_L)$  be given. then

$$\ln \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{F}_n, \sum_{j=1}^L \rho_j \epsilon_j \prod_{k=j+1}^L \rho_k s_k, \|\cdot\|_F) \leq \sum_{i=1}^L \left\lceil \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b_i^2 \prod_{j < i} \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon_i} \right\rceil \ln(2m^2).$$

### Proof.

Let  $X_i$  denote the output of layer  $i$  of the network, using weights  $(W_i, \dots, W_1)$ , meaning

$$X_0 := X \quad \text{and} \quad X_i := \sigma_i(X_{i-1} W_i^\top).$$

The proof recursively constructs cover elements  $\hat{X}_i$  and weights  $\hat{W}_i$  for each layer with the following basic properties. □

## Proof of the Lemma 2

### Proof.

- Define  $\hat{X}_0 := X_0$ , and  $\hat{X}_i := \Pi_{B_i} \sigma_i(\hat{X}_{i-1} \hat{W}_i^\top)$ , where  $B_i$  is the Frobenius-norm ball of radius  $\|X\|_F \Pi_{j < i} \rho_j s_j$ .
- Due to the projection  $\Pi_{B_i}$ ,  $\|\hat{X}_i\|_F \leq \|X\|_F \Pi_{j < i} \rho_j s_j$ . Similarly, using  $\rho_i(0) = 0$ ,  $\|X_i\|_F \leq \|X\|_F \Pi_{j < i} \rho_j s_j$ .
- Given  $\hat{X}_{i-1}$ , choose  $\hat{W}_i$  via Lemma above so that  $\|\hat{X}_{i-1} \hat{W}_i^\top - \hat{X}_{i-1} \hat{W}_i^\top\|_F \leq \epsilon_i$ , whereby the corresponding covering number  $\mathcal{N}_i$  for this layer satisfies

$$\ln \mathcal{N}_i \leq \left\lceil \frac{\|\hat{X}_{i-1}\|_F^2 b_i^2}{\epsilon_i^2} \right\rceil \ln(2m^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b_i^2 \Pi_{j < i} \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon_i} \right\rceil \ln(2m^2).$$



## Proof of the Lemma 2

Proof.

- Since each cover element  $\hat{X}_i$  depends on the full tuple  $(\hat{W}_i, \dots, \hat{W}_1)$ , the final cover is the product of the individual covers (and not their union), and the final cover log cardinality is upper bounded by

$$\ln \Pi_{i=1}^L \mathcal{N}_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^L \left\lceil \frac{\|X\|_F^2 b_i^2 \Pi_{j < i} \rho_j^2 s_j^2}{\epsilon_i} \right\rceil \ln(2m^2).$$

It remains to prove, by induction, an error guarantee

$$\|X_i - \hat{X}_i\|_F \leq \sum_{j=1}^i \rho_j \epsilon_j \Pi_{k=j+1}^i \rho_k s_k.$$

The base case  $\|X_0 - \hat{X}_0\|_F = 0 = \epsilon_0$  holds directly. For the inductive step, by the above ingredients and the triangle inequality,





## Proof of the Lemma 2

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}\|X_i - \hat{X}_i\|_F &\leq \rho_i \|X_{i-1} W_i^\top - \hat{X}_{i-1} \hat{W}_i^\top\|_F \\ &\leq \rho_i \|X_{i-1} W_i^\top - \hat{X}_{i-1} W_i^\top\|_F + \rho_i \|\hat{X}_{i-1} W_i^\top - \hat{X}_{i-1} \hat{W}_i^\top\|_F \\ &\leq \rho_i s_i \|X_{i-1} - \hat{X}_{i-1}\|_F + \rho_i \epsilon_i \\ &\leq \rho_i s_i \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \rho_j \epsilon_j \prod_{k=j+1}^{i-1} \rho_k s_k \right] + \rho_i \epsilon_i \\ &= \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \rho_j \epsilon_j \prod_{k=j+1}^i \rho_k s_k \right] + \rho_i \epsilon_i \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^i \rho_j \epsilon_j \prod_{k=j+1}^i \rho_k s_k.\end{aligned}$$



THANK YOU!